

28 1. A user interface for an interactive television system comprising:
a television display area to display television content;
a communication notification area to display a notification of an incoming communication,

wherein the notification is to be displayed without a communication interface for the incoming communication, and

wherein the television display area and the communication notification area are to be simultaneously displayed.

29 2. The user interface of claim 1, wherein the notification identifies an initiator of the incoming communication.

30 3. The user interface of claim 1, wherein the notification identifies how many incoming communications have been received.

31 4. The user interface of claim 1, wherein the incoming communication comprises an e-mail message.

32 5. The user interface of claim 1, wherein the incoming communication comprises an instant message.

33 6. The user interface of claim 1, wherein the communication notification area comprises a control for displaying the interface for the incoming communication.

34 7. The user interface of claim 7, wherein the communication notification area is to display notifications of at least two incoming communications of different types.

35 8. The user interface of claim 7, wherein the at least two incoming communications comprise an e-mail message and an instant message.

B1 Cont 36 9. A user interface for an interactive television system comprising:
a television display area to display television content; and
a television reminder area to display a reminder for an upcoming television program,

wherein the television display area and the television reminder area are to be simultaneously displayed.

37 10. The user interface of claim 7, wherein the reminder indicates an amount of time before the upcoming television program is to begin.

38 11. The user interface of claim 7, wherein the reminder indicates a name of the upcoming television program.

39 12. A user interface for an interactive television system comprising:
a television display area to display television content;
a plurality of selectable information categories; and

a information display area to display information from a selected category that is customized to a particular viewer,

wherein the television display area and the information display area are to be simultaneously displayed.

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40 13. The user interface of claim 12³⁹, wherein the information comprises weather information that is customized to a viewer's geographic location.

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41 14. The user interface of claim 12³⁹, wherein the information comprises stock information that is customized to a viewer's selection of stocks.

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42 15. The user interface of claim 12³⁹, wherein the information comprises news information that is customized to a viewer's interests.

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43 16. The user interface of claim 12³⁹, wherein the plurality of selectable information categories are selected by a viewer from a plurality of available information categories.

44 17. A user interface for an interactive television system comprising:
a television display area to display television content;
a communication notification area to display a notification of an incoming communication; and
a television reminder area to display a reminder of an upcoming television program,

wherein the notification is to be displayed without a communication interface for the incoming communication, and

wherein the television display area, the communication notification area, and the television reminder area are to be simultaneously displayed.

¶ 18. A user interface for an interactive television system comprising:

a television display area to display television content;

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Cont a communication notification area to display a notification of an incoming communication; and

a plurality of selectable information categories; and

an information display area to display information from a selected category that is customized to a particular viewer,

wherein the notification is to be displayed without a communication interface for the incoming communication, and

wherein the television display area and the information display area are to be simultaneously displayed.

¶ 19. A user interface for an interactive television system comprising:

a television display area to display television content;

a television reminder area to display a reminder for an upcoming television program;

a plurality of selectable content categories; and

an information display area to display information from a selected category that is customized to a particular viewer,

wherein the television display area, the television reminder area, and the information display area, are to be simultaneously displayed.

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A user interface for an interactive television system comprising:

a television display area to display television content;

a communication notification area to display a notification at least one incoming communication;

a television reminder area to display a reminder of at least one upcoming television program;


a plurality of selectable information categories; and

an information display area to display information from a selected category that is customized to a particular viewer,

wherein the notification is to be displayed without a communication interface for the incoming communication, and

wherein the television display area, the communication notification area, the television reminder area, and the information display area are to be simultaneously displayed.

Respectfully submitted,


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